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### **REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT EDUCATION IN ARIZONA**

Phoenix, AZ (March 1) – The Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP), within the Department of Economic Security, is pleased to once again present their annual conference, *Community Matters: Strengthening Refugee Resettlement in Arizona*, to be held **April 18-19, 2005** at the **Black Canyon Conference Center** in **Phoenix, AZ**.

This conference is an exciting opportunity for refugee service organizations, refugees and members of the general public to learn and share about the changing dynamics of refugee resettlement and practices that are helping refugees to successfully transition to life in Arizona. At this year's annual conference, national and local refugee service experts and other public and private service organizations will provide participants with useful information and resources to meet the unique and diverse needs of refugees living in Arizona.

**Dr. Nguyen Van Hanh, Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement**, will speak about **developments in United States refugee resettlement** and how they will impact resettlement in Arizona. In light of the challenges in the field, he will provide an insider's viewpoint about current and future developments.

**Lavinia Limon, Executive Director of the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (USCRI)** and opening keynote will be speaking on **"Advocacy and Bringing Refugees to the Country."**

In addition to these notable presentations, several breakout sessions are available to provide attendees with increased knowledge on refugee resettlement in Arizona. These breakout sessions are divided into **four tracks: Advocacy, Education, Health and Trafficking**. The 'trafficking' track is designed for professionals who provide services to victims of trafficking. It will include information on collaboration of law enforcement and legal issues pertaining to trafficking victims.

The **registration price is \$85 through April 1<sup>st</sup> and \$125 after April 1<sup>st</sup>**. <http://www.kc-a.com/clients/irc/2005RRPbrochurefinal.pdf> Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities are also available. The conference will be held at the Black Canyon Conference Center: 9440 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. in Phoenix, AZ. For more information, please contact the conference office at (480) 893-6110 or via e-mail at [refugeeresettlement@kc-a.com](mailto:refugeeresettlement@kc-a.com).

*Community Matters: Strengthening Refugee Resettlement in Arizona* is presented by the Arizona Refugee Resettlement Program (RRP). The mission of the RRP is to "promote successful refugee resettlement through contracts and direct services that effectively use social services formula and discretionary, targeted assistance, and cash and medical assistance grants to best enable refugees to achieve social and economic self-sufficiency." For more on the RRP, please call (602) 542-6600.

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